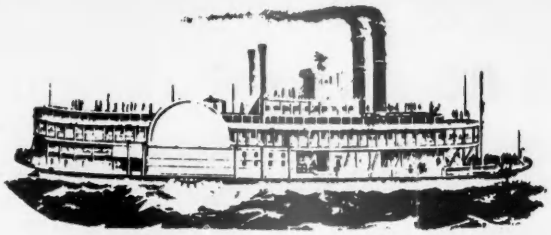


RIVER CURRENTS

SECOND COAST GUARD DISTRICT - APRIL, 1980

The Water Starts To Rise

Evacuation has begun at ANFAC Greenville because of high water, according to BMC L. Cruz. They are expecting a crest of around 42 feet on the fourth of April.

"It's not quite as bad as last year, so far. Of course, it all depends on the weather, but it is more of a nuisance than a disaster so far. About 75% of the parking lot is covered with water. We have to move all the vehicles up to the levee, at this stage, and commute by small boat. So far, we haven't had to move Patoka."

CGC PATOKA is the cutter moored at ANFAC Greenville.

BMC Cruz also said that there had been no evacuations of private homes, or other flood relief work so far this year, and the high water had not interfered with commercial vessels.

Ping Pong

MSO St. Louis wants it known: Coast Guardsmen have only one month left to take on the all time freestyle Ping Pong champion of MSO St. Louis, BMC Donald Hughes. He retires in April.

"We just want to give the Coast Guard one last chance," said MK3 Alan Boefer. "We're ready to take on teams or individuals."

To arrange a match, call MK3 Boefer at 425-4657, or FTS 279-4657.

Shine A Light: the Incentive Awards Program

Story by LCDR J. H. Burger

Tired of inefficiency, waste, and just plain dumbness? There is something you can do about all that, and it is called the Incentive Awards Program.

The Incentive Awards Program is designed to let you make your input. Through this program, each and every one of us has the opportunity to suggest better and more cost effective ways of doing things.

Your suggestion can provide benefits in three ways:

FIRST; if your suggestion is adopted, the government derives the benefit of a more cost effective method of operation resulting in a saving of dollars that can be used elsewhere.

SECOND; if your suggestion is adopted, you will receive a cash award commensurate with the savings to the government your suggestion produces.

THIRD; even if your suggestion is not adopted, your idea will have been afforded the opportunity to be evaluated and you will receive a Second District coffee cup.

THERE IS NO WAY YOU OR THE GOVERNMENT CAN LOSE.

During FY-79, sixty-one suggestions were submitted in the Second District as compared to thirty-eight in FY-78. Ten cash awards totaling $1220.00 and forty-seven coffee cups were awarded to Second District personnel. The government benefited by saving $13,434.00.

The FY-80 Incentive Award Program slogan is "IDEAS LIGHT THE WAY-PASS YOURS ON TODAY." Why not do it?

THIS COULD BE THE LAST TIME

SA Doug P. KECK of Group UMR looks like hs is at Ice Station Zebra as he cleans off the snow in the parking lot from the "Last" snow fall in Keokuk, Ia.

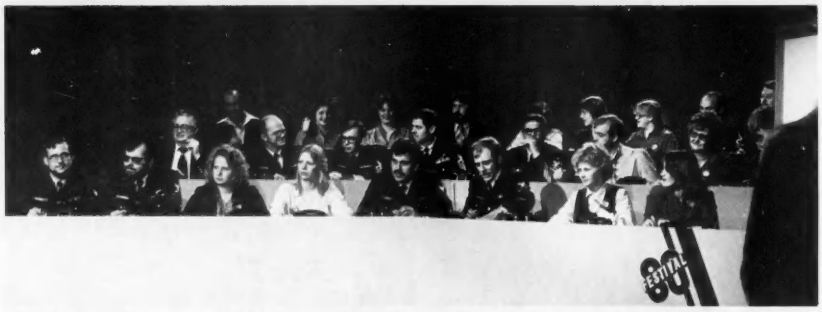
SA Douglas P. KECK scrapes the parking lot at Group Upper Miss. River of the accumulation from the "last snow storm" in Keokuk, Ia. When asked for a comment he replied "mush." SA Keck is from Belleville, Illinois.

Photo and caption by YN2 Stephen B Handy

Coast Guard Family Helps Raise Funds

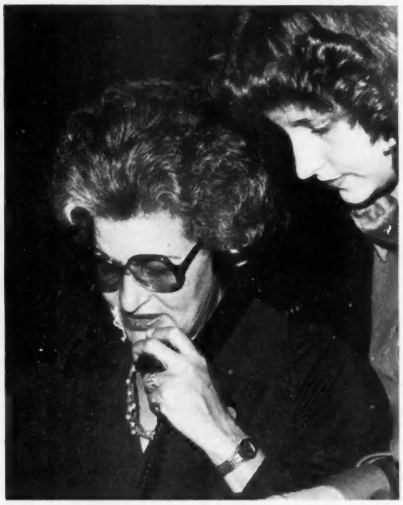
For the second year in a row, Coast Guardsmen from the St. Louis area helped to man the phones during KETC-TV Channel 9's annual fund raising effort. The Public Television Station managed to raise over $12 thousand March 10, the date the Coast Guardsmen and dependents were on board to assist.

Last year, volunteers from the Chief Petty Officer's Association managed to raise over $13 thousand in their evenings efforts last year.



Coast Guards men and their dependents man the phones for public television in St. Louis.

YN1 Bob Woolsey, YN1 Dale Broskey, and BMCS M. A. Luna hard at work at the telethon.



Evelyn Bunting and her daughter Sandy keep the switchboard humming at the KETC fund raising drive.

Officers Wives Celebrate 25 Years of Giving

For a quarter of a century now, the 2nd District Officers' Wives Club has been serving the Coast Guard and the community. A list of those people and organizations that have benefitted from the Wives Club activities would fill this paper.

A few of the organizations include: Big Cat Country at the St. Louis Zoo; LORAN Station Christmas parties; and a fund to keep sketches of the artist George Caleb Bingham in Missouri.

The 25th Anniversary celebration was held at the Mother-in-Laws restaurant in historic St. Charles. Several of the past presidents of the club were on hand to celebrate the anniversary. Ellen Glasgow gave an address on the history of the club.

Kay Fugina, first president of the St. Louis Area Officers' Wives' Club, helps Carlajean Solberg cut the cake Mrs. Solberg baked to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the club.

Get Out or Stay In? The Career Question

Decisions, decisions. Sure there's security, but what about all that moving around? Good medical benefits, but a lot of private industry and government programs are as good or better, and there wouldn't be any CHAMPUS headaches.

River Currents talked to a couple of Coast Guard personnel who got out, and changed their mind about service life after being a civilian for a while:

BM2 Patsy Skinner works at Boating Safety Detachment Huntsville. She worked at a search and rescue station on the West Coast during her first enlistment, then left the Coast Guard. After about a year of civilian living, BM2 Skinner is back in the Coast Guard to stay.

"I left in the first place because of the duty station I was at. It seemed to me at the time that I just couldn't do anything right for the boss I had," explained BM2 Skinner.

"When I got out I expected to be making big money, but the money just wasn't there. For about a month and a half I typed for a news service, then I delivered magazines for stores. I made about $175 per week, but there were no fringe benefits. At my first job, typing, there was no health insurance at all. At my job delivering magazines you had to be out of work eight days before you could collect any kind of insurance.

"Another thing," continued BM2 Skinner," was that I discoverd the military was not the only place women are treated differently than men. I think now that it was the military that made me aware of that, but the civilian world is no improvement. There's always somebody who doesn't like women working for them. You're going to get hassled wherever you go.

"I'm happy at the job I have now. I sure missed the excitement of being in the Coast Guard when I was delivering magazines.

"My advice to anyone who is thinking about getting out is: think about it, **hard.** If I had to do it over again, I wouldn't have left the service."

YN2 Natalie Cline is a new face around the 2nd District offices, boating division, but she's been in the Coast Guard for four years.

YN2 Cline left the service in October, 1979 because ". . . there was no guarantee that my husband and I would be stationed together."

The Clines came to St. Louis, where YN2 Cline found work with a stockbroker. "You know how they are always telling you how well you can do on the outside? Well, don't believe it. The job I had was **boring.** After a whole year of work, you were entitled to exactly one weeks vacation." YN2 Cline rejoined March 17.

Judging from these two petty officers' experience, stories about the glories of civilian life may be fairy tales.

Volley Ball Team Brings Home Bacon

It was the first year that the 2nd District put a Volleyball team on the court, and they have established a winning tradition already by putting a third place trophy in the 2nd District Case.

After a slow start, the volleyball team went on to take a third place in the League. Games were at Granite City Army Depot. The win-loss record was 5-5.

The excellence of the Coast Guard netmen is attested to by the number of them picked for the elite all-star team. A grand total of 18 men were picked for the all-star play-off, of those five were Coast Guardsmen. They include: LT K.H. Good, LT P.T. Hoopes; LTJG W.L. Fry; QM1 Ray Moulton; and HM2 Brad Rees.

The team included:

NAME

SK2 Peewee Parker-Coach	QMC Randall White
YN2 Bill Rhoades	CWO2 Chuck Rasmussen
SN Charles Hershey	ENS Larry Solberg
YN3 Paul Simon	LTJG Bill Fry
HM Brad Rees	LTJG Erich Engelbrecht
YN2 Barry O'Sha	LTJG Rich Lynch
YN1 Dennis Laughlin	LTJG Mike Farley
YN1 John Mooney	LT Ken Good
QM1 Ray Moulton	LT Pat Hoopes

Members of the hard-spiking, net-defying, trophy-winning 2nd District Volleyball squad.

B-Ball Team In Tournament

The precision and elegance that marked the play of the St. Louis Area Coast Guard basketball team brought them through the play-offs to the finals, and gives them a chance to pluck a trophy from the play-offs and lay it to rest in the 2nd District case.

A five-five season doesn't do justice to the style of play the Coast Guardsmen consistently exhibited. The first half of the season the team was plagued by TAD and extra-duty absences. But when they all managed to get together, they worked the court with dash and style.

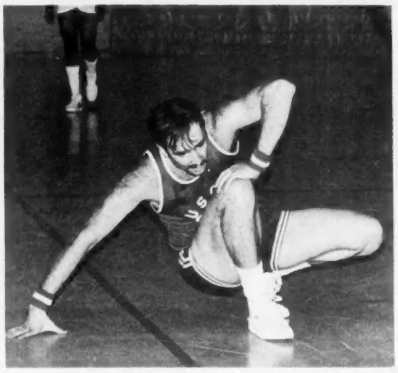
"We play as a team, not as a mob," said SK3 Marty Daniels, this year's high scorer, with 25 points to his credit.

Other top scorers include SK2 Roderick Brown 18 points; DC3 Reginald Wells, 15 points; SS3 Fred Trujillo, 20 points, SK3 Milton Gooden 10 points; FA Cowan Brooks, 7 points, SK3 Mike Jones 7 points.

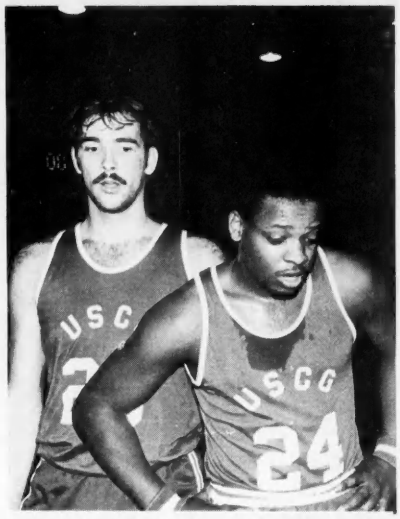
SK3 Marty Daniels soars above the opposition. Daniels works at 2nd District offices.

SK3 James Sims of Base St. Louis goes up for the shot.

FA Cowan Brooks and SK2 Roderick Brown of base St. Louis chase a loose ball.



SS3 Fred Trujillo, who works at base St. Louis, picks himself up off the floor during a game marred by fouls.



Brown and Trujillo catch their breath during a time out.

(Editor's note: Because of RADM Venzke's involvement in the board of inquiry that is investigating the sinking of the CGC BLACKTHORN outside Tampa Bay, Florida, there will not be a District Commander's Corner in this issue. River Currents will continue this feature in future issues.)

DISTRICT COMMANDER
RADM Norman C. Venzke
Chief of Staff
CAPT J.W. Leadbetter
Public Affairs Officer
LTJG Louis M. Farrell
Assistant Public Affairs Officer
PAI Roy Compton

Editor
PA2 Dennis H. Post
Photojournalists:
PA3 Dona R. Frank
SN David Graf

An unofficial publication, RIVER CURRENTS is published under the direction of the Public Affairs Office.

News, feature stories and photographs are solicited from all Coast Guard personnel. Material will be published on a space available, news significance basis and by-lines may be given, if requested.